



November 10, 1999

The following was retransmitted from:

Bill Eggertson

Canadian Association for Renewable Energies

We CARE

<mailto:eggertson@renewables.ca>

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press here: <mailto:sample@renewables.ca>

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### **Green Energy Suppliers in California Verify their Sales**

SACRAMENTO, California - Green energy suppliers in California report that 350 GWh of renewable energy electricity was purchased in that state last year.

A state agency is required to compare the source of green power that retailers disclose to their consumers, with the information from the California Energy Commission on actual energy generation in California. "Given the available data, the Energy Commission believes that retailers claims submitted to date are accurate," says the annual reconciliation of retailer claims.

Retail power suppliers must disclose "accurate, reliable and simple" information on their sources of energy, including disclosure of the source of fuel used to generate electricity. Suppliers who make claims differentiating their power mix are required to submit detailed information about their power purchases and retail sales each year.

A power content label allows consumers to compare the source mix of any supplier with the average state-wide mix in California. In 1998, natural gas contributed 31 percent of fuel sources, with

large hydro at 22 percent, coal at 20 percent and nuclear at 16 percent. Of the 11 percent from eligible renewable, geothermal was 5 percent, small hydro was 2 percent, biomass and waste was 2 percent, wind was 1 percent, and solar was less than 1 percent.

The CEC compared seven companies: clean n green energy; Edison Source; GreenMountain.com; Keystone Energy; PG&E Energy; Sacramento Municipal Utility District; and Automated Power Exchange. These companies collectively claimed specific purchases from 26 generating facilities, all but one of which are renewable. Seven renewable generating facilities were eligible for funding under CEC's Renewable Technology Program, although only four receive funding.

For the fourth quarter of 1998, 42 separate parties reported on the output of 503 generating facilities, representing 883 unique units and accounting for 51,383 GWh of electricity. For the calendar year 1998, retailers claimed specific purchases of 350 GWh from generators that generated in excess of 4,300 GWh.

"Given the information available, all companies reporting to the CEC appear to have purchased sufficient amounts of power of the specified fuel types to meet their claims to consumers," the report states. "In fact, the companies purchased far more renewable power than was required. In these cases, retailers transferred the excess renewable power to other products."

The CEC was developing a set of auditing procedures with the Center for Resource Solutions (the association that manages the Green-e certification), but they believe that an audit would be infeasible or prohibitively expensive.

For its 1999 analysis, the CEC will have access to more complete data, but it also anticipates a "much greater number" of retail claims that will increase the complexity of the analysis and the need for reliable generation data.

[http://www.energy.ca.gov/reports/1999-10-06\\_500-99-016.PDF](http://www.energy.ca.gov/reports/1999-10-06_500-99-016.PDF)